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THE PRESIDENT HAS SAID... *dy*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 10, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF

M.G. *MAY*

At the request of former Congressman Dick Shoup I met with him this afternoon to discuss the creation of a new legislative program by the Republican Members of the House of Representatives.

He quickly apologized for the story in the Star today and said that the Administration need not be apprehensive about any potential conflict. Shoup said that the formation of the Republican program under the direction of Minority Leader John Rhodes reflects a basic dislike for what the Democrats have proposed, not the Administration's basic programs.

He said that the program was in a "fumbling" stage and that the goal was to have a cohesive minority and hopefully have 90% or more of the Republicans in agreement on the program.

Shoup said that when he makes his recommendations to Rhodes sometime next week he expects there will be less disagreement with the Administration than when he was a Congressman and representing only Montana.

Shoup said that he saw no conflict between the Rhodes program and the House Republican Policy Committee.

He did say, however, that when the Rhodes program was completed he wanted to meet with me and explain it and emphasize this would be an explanation, not a request and/or desire for approval.

I tried to draw him out on specifics but he was vague on any issues except energy where he stated some overall goals which reflect very general policy objectives common to all energy programs. In his initial recommendations to Rhodes, Shoup expects to suggest what issues should be considered, staffing for the new program and how all of this should be accomplished.

I have the clear impression that Shoup is not exactly clear on what he is expected to do and how to go about it. Furthermore, he took a great deal of time from our interview to express irritation that he has not received a federal appointment from the Administration and was critical about not hearing from our personnel office since last December 18.

He said that he resented being left dangling, that he would like to stay in government, doesn't know if he will run again, and still very much wants to be Federal Railway Administrator. I am not exactly sure whether Rhodes really expects him to accomplish anything or just put him on the payroll to remove complaining by other Congressmen about Shoup's not being placed.